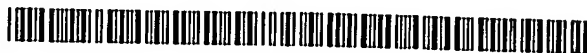


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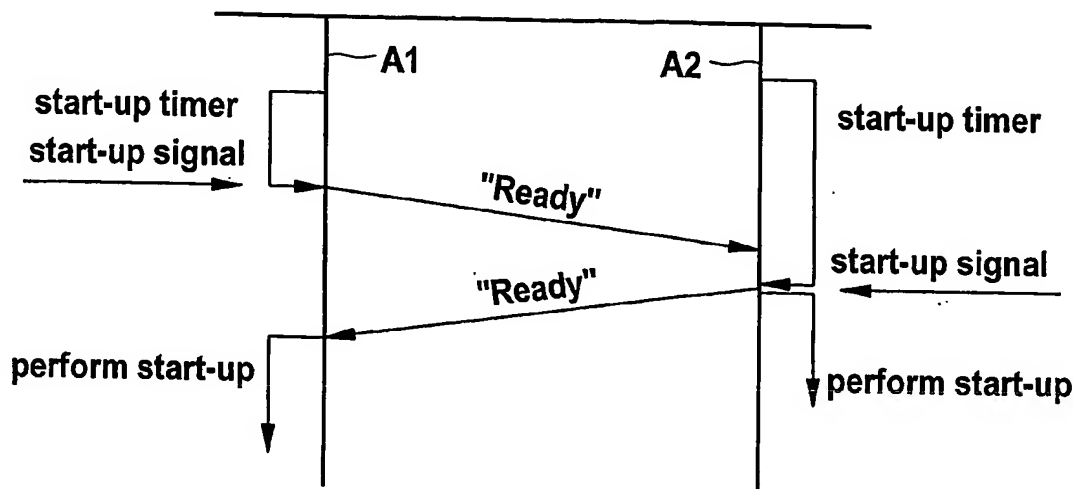
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- (71) Applicant (for DE only): **PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS GMBH [DE/DE];** Stein-
damm 94, 20099 Hamburg (DE).
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except DE, US):
KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N. V.
[NL/NL]; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven
(NL).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **UNGERMANN,**
Jörn [DE/DE]; c/o Philips Intellectual Property & Stan-
dards GmbH, Weisschausstr. 2, 52066 Aachen (DE).
FUHRMANN, Peter [DE/DE]; c/o Philips Intellectual
Property & Standards GmbH, Weisschausstr. 2, 52066
Aachen (DE).
- (74) Agent: **VOLMER, Georg;** Philips Intellectual Property &
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(57) Abstract: A dual-channel network with in each case one communication controller (2, 6) for each of the two channels (A, B). In order to ensure that the two channels (A, B) operate on a temporally matched basis, an exchange of current states ("ready, "abort") takes place via an external or an on-chip interface (1 a, 1 b). The cold start operation is carried out only if, and so long as, both communication controllers are in the "ready" state.